

**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT  
(CDVSA)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Council Meeting  
Video Conference/Teleconference  
801 W 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Juneau, Alaska  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1970, Anchorage, Alaska  
August 19, 2015**

**Committee Members Present**

Richard Irwin – Chair  
Susan Cushing – telephonic  
Commissioner Gary Folger – telephonic  
Patricia Owen  
Jim Cantor  
Commissioner Ron Taylor  
Rachel Gernat – telephonic  
Donna Erickson – telephonic

**Guests**

Amanda Price, SOA, Governor's Office – telephonic  
David Wilson, AFS – telephonic

**Staff**

Lauree Morton  
Angela Wells

**Minutes Prepared by:** Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

August 19, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER**

Richard Irwin called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., and roll call was taken.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Rachel Gernat **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion was **SECONDED** by Donna Erickson. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED. (7/0)**

**CONFLICT INQUIRY**

Richard Irwin polled the Council members for any conflicts of interest, and none were reported.

**JUNE MINUTES**

Rachel Gernat **MOVED** to approve the June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter meeting minutes as amended. Donna Erickson **SECONDED** the motion. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED. (7/0)**

Discussion of the June minutes began. Susan Cushing asked for the public comment transcripts, which Lauree stated would be sent out immediately.

**JULY NOTES**

Lauree Morton presented her notes of highlights during the July meeting because minutes were not present. Both July and August minutes will be in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Meeting packet.

**FY2016 – PREVENTION/EVALUATION FUNDS**

Lauree gave a brief history of what had been decided in the last few meetings about the Prevention increment, bringing the Council up to speed and current funding.

Lauree Morton stated that the draft budget reduces prevention over \$1.4 million. What is stated is the reduced amount that is left and is available for FY16. Each prevention effort is going to be reduced. What is recommended is that the Council preserves some of the evaluation with prevention that is sustainable through this year. All prevention efforts are being reduced in FY16.

Patricia Owen commented that she supports the evaluation money being used as part of the prevention money. She noted that this is a way of looking at still being accountable by being able to evaluate programs without the big research projects like the Victimization Survey or new research studies.

Jim Cantor asked for an explanation of the \$20,000 from the \$100,000 for prevention efforts including evaluation. Lauree Morton stated that there is an outreach coordinator or an education coordinator in the current programs, and the Council's prevention coordinator has been working with them and providing opportunities for them to get together statewide to work on consistent messaging and plans for being out in

communities, and the \$20,000 is to help that project. Jim asked if the budget was sufficiently reserving capacity to evaluate? Lauree Morton stated that the prevention money will not be available for FY17, that this is the one-time money that's available because the Council brought VOCA money into the grants line in FY16, which is what the \$500,000 is based on. This year, the staff will be working diligently to find prevention money to be able to carry forward into FY17.

Patricia Owen commented that a rule of thumb in program planning is that a minimum of 10% of programming money goes to evaluation, so that would be approximately \$50,000 of the \$500,000. Patricia recommended \$50,000 to \$100,000 to keep the evaluations with the programs. Susan Cushing commented that logically, evaluation would have been built in, and it states that it is built in, so it is not clear to her how that spreads out over programs and coordinators at the staff level. Patricia Owen reminded Susan that the Council entertained the \$500,000 going to prevention, and then cautioned themselves that maybe that would leave nothing for research, so they held back the \$100,000 from prevention to put into research potentially, and this is putting it back into the prevention pot, but for evaluation.

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** that \$500,000 of state general funds dollars in FY16 will be used for prevention efforts to include evaluation within those efforts. Patricia Owen **SECONDED** the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED**. (7/0)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present to give public comment.

#### **FY2017 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **GENERAL FUNDS: 3% Reduction/Increment Requests**

Lauree Morton reported that there has been a request from OMB for the Council to submit a flat-funded draft budget and a draft budget with a 3% reduction, which would amount to \$340,000. Lauree stated that the staff will be looking for direction as to where the \$340,000 would come from. She reminded the Council members that at the February meeting, the Network and the Council agreed to eliminate \$200,000 from the Batterer Intervention Program. The options include: \$200,000 from BIP, and a further reduction of \$140,000 to Kid's Club Mom's Empowerment (KCME), or a direct reduction to the Victim Service Grant line, or a combination of reductions/eliminations.

During discussion, the Council members agreed on their priorities as follows:

1. Keep programs intact
2. KCME
3. BIP

Questions from the Council to staff included:

**Q: Has the Council gotten input from the Network on the KCME program?**

A: Staff's impression is that the programs have appreciated the opportunity to do the program, and it is getting children's services into shelters by being the first attempt at providing children's services in residence in shelters. It is currently in five shelters.

**Q: What programs have the KCME?**

A: AWARE, AWAIC, WISH, SAFV, Haven House. These were the programs that applied to have the programs in their shelters. It is a pilot in the research aspect of it, and the Council is supporting research to establish whether or not it would be evidence-based best practice in Alaska.

After a lengthy discussion, the direction from the Council to staff was should it be necessary to submit a \$340,000 reduction for the FY17 budget, \$200,000 would come from the BIP, \$140,000 would be from the Victim Service Grants line. Further direction states that the executive director would work with the funded programs to gather a recommendation from them about whether or not they would want that \$140,000 to come from KCME or to be prorated among the Victim Service Programs in their general grant awards.

**STOP ADMINISTRATION LETTER**

Lauree Morton reminded the Council members that in July, the staff made a recommendation to the Council to write a letter to the Governor's office to request that the executive order regarding STOP funds be restated that the Council is the STOP administrator and not a pass-through and that the Council would have the authority that if funds were not being spent, to expend the funds in the designated purpose areas.

Susan Cushing's concern was that the Network's involvement was not clearly stated in the request. Lauree Morton stated that the language was not in the request essentially because states are required to involve the state coalition, and without a letter from the state coalition, which is the Network, the STOP plan would not be approved. Lauree noted that she is not opposed to adding that language to the request, but it is in the federal statutes already.

Jim Cantor stated that he would ask the Council not to change the current system that has worked for 20 years. He stated that he understands there has been carryover in the past, but that at this point, that is no longer happening. He stated that the funds are an integral part of their budget, and if it turns out they run into a situation where they have to carry over, the agencies need to work together to make sure there are arrangements to spend the money. Lauree Morton stated that the Council is going to have to apply for more federal dollars. When the Council applies for more federal dollars, the Office of Violence Against Women is the predominant federal funder of these kinds of programs. If the Council is in a competitive situation with other states, other communities, other municipalities, one of the things that OVW weights into deciding on whether or not to give an award is how that entity has spent formula funds and how they've spent prior grant awards. So if the Council is constantly having to extend the current awards because they are not being spent, that has the great potential of inhibiting their ability to be successful in getting any of those awards. Lauree noted that if the Council is

awarded competitive grants and it doesn't seem to be negatively impacting that, then it could continue on in the same way. Lauree recommended there be an agreement that the Council will revisit it in 18 months and see how it has worked.

The unanimous consensus of the Council members was to table any action on requesting a letter from the Governor related to the STOP funds and revisit the topic in 12 months.

### **INCREMENT REQUEST**

Lauree Morton requested that the Council members have a discussion on whether or not to put forward a \$265,000 increment request for 2017 for research/evaluation.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to add the \$265,000 increment for FY17 for evaluation and research. The motion was **SECONDED** by Rachel Gernat. During discussion, Patricia Owen voiced her concern about the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey (BRFSS) and having to make a special increment request for \$15,000. Lauree Morton stated that the Council participates every three years. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Richard Irwin opened the floor to the Council members for comments.

Susan Cushing requested a summary of action items and motions that went forth at the meeting in an email in the next week to keep memories fresh on the discussions.

Patricia Owens commented that the Department of Education is looking forward to establishing the taskforce for the Alaska Safe Children's Act. Patricia is also involved in their Annual School Health and Wellness Institute in October where one of the features is the Alaska Safe Children's Act.

Richard Irwin commented that Dr. Lisa Whitehead came to Alaska and addressed a denomination related to the issues of DV/SA and action plans forthcoming about engaging with state efforts.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. The motion was **SECONDED** by Donna Erickson. Hearing no opposition, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**Minutes Approved: 12/8/15, P.D.**